

Appl. No. 10/065,945
Amdt. Dated Jan. 15, 2004
Reply to Office action of Dec. 20, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended)

Claim 2 (currently amended)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (currently amended)

Claim 5 (cancelled)

[c1]<claim>

<claim-text>> What is claimed is: </claim-text>

<claim-text>1.(currently amended) A ~~light capturing device~~ microscope illuminator, comprising: </claim-text>

<claim-text>a ~~cylindrical array of light conducting~~ shroud of optical fibers arranged in a horizontal plane to fully encompass and receive the light energy from surrounding a centrally-located point source light radiator so configured as to efficiently intercept the a spherical radiation pattern. </claim-text></claim>

[c3]<claim>

<claim-text>2.(currently amended) The ~~light capturing device~~ microscope illuminator of claim 1, further comprising: </claim-text>

~~<claim-text>the ability to alter the vertical position of the fiber array relative to the light source in a manner that will result in a corresponding attenuation of the amount of light captured by the array~~ a vertical positioning system;

said system capable of altering the relative vertical position between the radiator and the fiber optic shroud to achieve an attenuation control of the transferred energy without altering its spectral characteristics. </claim-text></claim>

[c3]<claim>

<claim-text>3.(cancelled) The light capturing assembly of claim 2, further serve comprising: </claim-text>

<claim-text>a drive system capable of positioning the fiber array and/or the light source mechanically or electromechanically to achieve the desired degree of light attenuation. </claim-text></claim>

[c4]<claim>

<claim-text>4.(currently amended) The ~~light capturing assembly~~ microscope illuminator of claim 32, further ~~photovoltaic~~ is ing comprising: </claim-text>

<claim-text>a solar panel array;

said array positioned above and/or below the ~~fiber array~~ the point source radiator;

~~that converts~~ so positioned to intercept that portion of the light energy that is not captured by the ~~fiber array~~ shroud and to convert this energy into an electrical power source to position the aforementioned drive systems . </claim-text></claim>

[c5]<claim>

<claim-text>5.(cancelled) The light capturing assembly of claim 1, further comprising: </claim-text>

<claim-text>an electrically controlled variable light attenuator positioned in the output light path. This attenuator is powered by the solar panel(s) of claim 4 and actuated either locally or remotely. </claim-text></claim></claims>
<abstract-of-disclosure>